

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Divisional Application of: )  
U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/793,130 : Examiner: Unassigned  
filed February 27, 2001 )  
(Confirmation No.: 5677) : Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
)  
Ichiro OZAWA, et al. :  
)  
Application No.: Unassigned :  
)  
Filed: Concurrently herewith :  
)  
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS : January 28, 2004

**MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Introductory Comments

Prior to examination on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the above-identified application as follows.